

Mr. John C. Hall
Hall and Associates
Suite 701
1620 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-4033

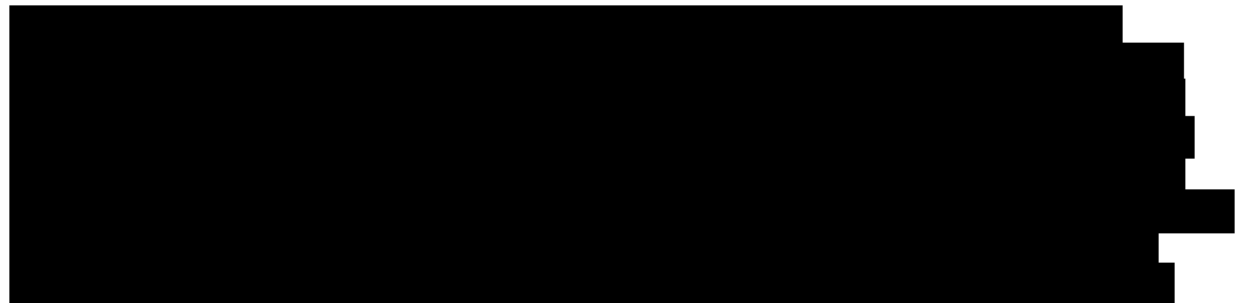
Dear Mr. Hall:

I am writing in response to your May 4, 2012, letter requesting that further review of Great Bay Estuary matters be withdrawn from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Region 1 office and transferred to an independent panel of experts for their evaluation of the relevant scientific information.

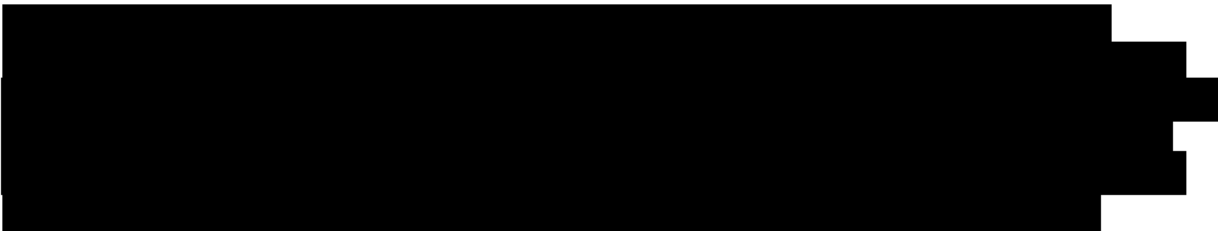
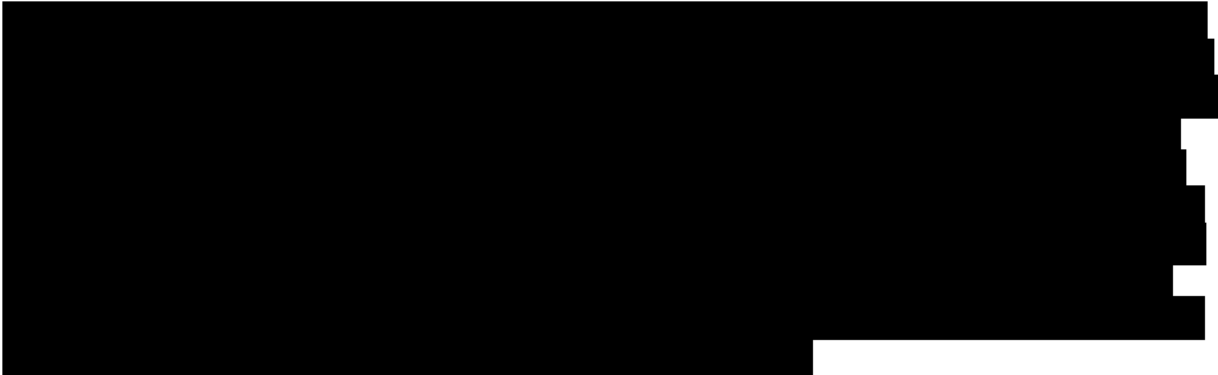
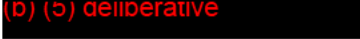

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Sincerely,

Nancy K. Stoner
Acting Assistant Administrator for Water